WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A service processing apparatus comprising:

a setting unit that sets at least a location of processing document data and a content of a plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and sets processing order of the plurality of service processes so that they will be executed serially and/or in parallel;

a generating unit that generates, on the basis of a content of settings made by the setting unit, instruction data to be used for executing the plurality of service processes on the document data in the processing order set by the setting unit ;

an interpreting unit that interprets a content of the instruction data; and

a cooperative processing unit that makes, on the basis of interpretation results of the interpreting unit, a plurality of service processing apparatuses connected to a network execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in a cooperative manner.

2. The service processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a judging unit that judges whether each of the plurality of service processes is executable; and

a processing unit that makes, if a service process is judged unexecutable by the judging unit, a service processing apparatus in charge of the unexecutable service process execute a predetermined executable service process.

3. The service processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a rewriting unit that rewrites the instruction data so that service processes that are currently defined as being executed serially will be executed in parallel when the service processes that are to be executed serially in the processing order can be executed in parallel.

4. A service processing method comprising:

setting at least a location of processing document data and a content of a

plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and setting

processing order of the plurality of service processes so that they will be executed serially

and/or in parallel;

generating, on the basis of a content of settings made in the setting step,

instruction data to be used for executing the plurality of service processes on the

document data in the processing order set in the setting step;

interpreting a content of the instruction data; and

making, on the basis of interpretation results in the interpreting step, a plurality

of service processing apparatuses connected to a network execute the plurality of service

processes on the document data in a cooperative manner.

5. The service processing method according to claim 4, further comprising:

judging whether each of the plurality of service processes is executable; and

making, if a service process is judged unexecutable, a service processing

apparatus in charge of the unexecutable service process execute a predetermined

executable service process.

6. The service processing method according to claim 4, further comprising

rewriting the instruction data so that service processes that are currently defined as being

executed serially will be executed in parallel when the service processes that are to be

executed serially in the processing order can be executed in parallel.

7. A service processing apparatus comprising:

a setting unit that sets at least a location of processing document data and a

content of a plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and sets

processing order of the plurality of service processes so that they will be executed serially

and/or in parallel;

a generating unit that generates, on the basis of a content of settings made by the

setting unit, instruction data to be used for executing the plurality of service processes on the document data in the processing order set by the setting unit;

an interpreting unit that interprets a content of the instruction data;

a process executing unit that executes a service process on the document data on the basis of interpretation results of the interpreting unit; and

a sending unit that sends the instruction data to a service processing apparatus for executing a next service process after the process executing unit has finished execution of the service process.

8. The service processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

a judging unit that judges whether the service process is executable; and

a processing unit that executes a predetermined executable service process if the service process is judged unexecutable by the judging unit.

9. A service processing method comprising:

setting at least a location of processing document data and a content of a plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and setting processing order of the plurality of service processes so that they will be executed serially and/or in parallel;

generating, on the basis of a content of settings made in the setting step, instruction data to be used for executing the plurality of service processes on the document data in the processing order set in the setting step;

interpreting a content of the instruction data;

executing a service process on the document data on the basis of interpretation results in the interpreting step; and

sending the instruction data to a service processing apparatus for executing a next service process after the process executing step has finished execution of the service

process.